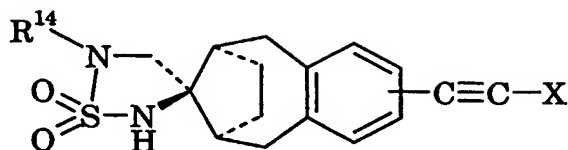


**CLAIMS**

1. A compound of formula I:

5



I

wherein X represents Ar, L-N(R<sup>1</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, L-CON(R<sup>1</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, L-CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>1</sup> or L-CN;

L represents a hydrocarbon chain of 1-7 carbon atoms which, when the chain comprises 2 or more carbon atoms, is optionally interrupted by an oxygen atom;

R<sup>1</sup> represents H or R<sup>2</sup>; or two R<sup>1</sup> groups attached to a single nitrogen atom may complete a heterocyclic ring of 3-7 members bearing 0-3 substituents selected from halogen, oxo, NO<sub>2</sub>, CN, CF<sub>3</sub>, R<sup>2</sup>, C<sub>2-6</sub>acyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkenyl, OH, OR<sup>2</sup>, CO<sub>2</sub>H, CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>2</sup>, Ar, ArCH<sub>2</sub>O, and ArO;

15 R<sup>2</sup> represents C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl which is optionally substituted with halogen, Ar, NO<sub>2</sub>, CN, CF<sub>3</sub>, OH or C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy;

R<sup>14</sup> represents H or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-7</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkylC<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkynyl, phenyl or benzyl, any of which optionally bear up to 3 halogen substituents or one substituent selected from CN, NO<sub>2</sub>, OH, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy, CO<sub>2</sub>H, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>acyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>acyloxy, amino, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)amino, C<sub>2-6</sub>acylamino, carbamoyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkylcarbamoyl and di(C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl)carbamoyl; and

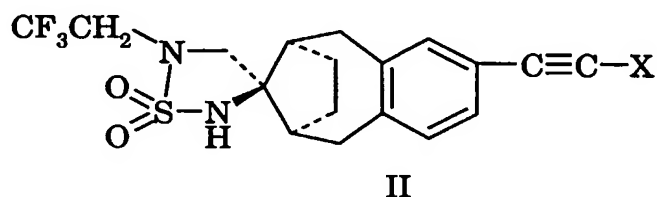
20 Ar represents phenyl or heteroaryl either of which optionally bears up to 3 substituents independently selected from halogen, CF<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, CN, OCF<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl and C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein X represents Ar and Ar represents optionally-substituted phenyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl or pyrazinyl.

5 3. A compound according to claim 1 wherein L is selected from  $-\text{CH}_2-$ ,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_4-$ ,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_5-$ ,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{O}-(\text{CH}_2)_2-$  and  $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{O}-\text{CH}_2-$ .

4. A compound according to claim 1 of formula II:



10

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. A compound according to claim 4 wherein X is selected from 6-  
15 membered heteroaryl,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{R}^1)_2$ ,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_5\text{N}(\text{R}^1)_2$ ,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{CON}(\text{R}^1)_2$ ,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{CO}_2\text{R}^2$ ,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{O}-\text{CH}_2\text{CN}$  and  $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{O}-(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{N}(\text{R}^1)_2$ .

6. A compound according to claim 5 wherein X is selected from 2-  
pyridyl, 3-pyridyl, pyrazinyl, 4-trifluoropiperidin-1-ylmethyl,  
20  $-(\text{CH}_2)_5\text{NH}-\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$ ,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{CONHCH}_2\text{Ph}$ ,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ ,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{O}-\text{CH}_2\text{CN}$   
and  $-(\text{CH}_2)_2-\text{O}-(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{NH}_2$ .

7. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to  
any previous claim and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

25

8. A compound according to any of claims 1-6 for use in a method of  
treatment of the human body.

9. The use of a compound according to any of claims 1-6 in the manufacture of a medicament for treatment or prevention of Alzheimer's disease.
- 5 10. A method of treatment of a subject suffering from or prone to Alzheimer's disease which comprises administering to that person an effective amount of a compound according to any of claims 1-6.